

Claims

- [c1] A computer-implemented method for facilitating the automated redemption of an unused ticket comprising the steps of:
- setting, via a computer system, an aging period;
 - identifying, via a computer system, the scheduled date of an issued ticket for selected purchasers;
 - adding, via computer a system, the aging period to the scheduled date and if the scheduled date plus the aging period is earlier than the current date, determining, via a computer system, whether the ticket has been used;
 - if the ticket has not been used, identifying the ticket as an unused ticket;
 - calculating, via a computer system, the redemption value of said unused ticket;
 - notifying at least one of a client travel agency and a client of said unused ticket.
- [c2] The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of processing, by said client travel agency, a refund of said unused ticket.
- [c3] The method of claim 1, wherein said step of notifying a client travel agency of said unused ticket includes notify-

ing a client travel agency by submitting a report of unused tickets.

- [c4] The method of claim 1, further comprising collecting ticket data from a financial transaction account, wherein said ticket data is used to determine said issued ticket for selected purchasers.
- [c5] The method of claim 1, wherein said ticket is at least one of a paper ticket and electronic ticket.
- [c6] The method of claim 1, further comprising separating non-refundable tickets.
- [c7] The method of claim 1, wherein said electronic ticket comprises a plurality of data fields and wherein said step of calculating, via a computer system, comprises the steps of communicating said data fields to a customer service tool and receiving a redemption value from said customer service tool.
- [c8] The method of claim 1, wherein said identifying the ticket as an unused ticket is based upon an analysis of at least one of a client travel agency database and a global distribution system.